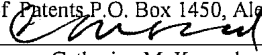


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Catherine M. Kynard

Dated: 4/6/2010

Inventors: Abilio Melquiades Laguna Granja et al.
Serial No.: 10/549,740
Filed: 5/30/2006
Examiner: Amy Lynn Clark
Art Unit: 1655
Title: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION AND METHOD OF
FOR THE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF
PROSTATIC HYPERPLASIA AND PROSTATITIS...
Docket No.: CLAIMS.P003
Customer Code: 28752

MS: RCE/Preliminary Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.114**

Hon. Sir:

In response to the official action mailed January 7, 2010, please enter this
preliminary amendment for the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.